

How FPL undergrounds power lines

Comparing and contrasting FPL's two main programs for replacing overhead power lines with underground lines to improve reliability in good weather and bad

	Storm Secure Underground Pilot Program	Municipality/community-initiated underground conversions
What type of areas are undergrounded?	FPL selects neighborhoods based on a history of outages during Hurricanes Matthew and/or Irma, past tree- and vegetation-related outages and historic reliability factors	Municipalities or communities approach FPL for a cost estimate to put power lines underground at their expense
How is a neighborhood selected?	Selection criteria and annual work plan approved by Florida Public Service Commission; FPL doesn't have discretion to move a neighborhood up or down the list	Customers can engage FPL to begin conversion process at any time without needing to meet Florida Public Service Commission selection criteria
Which lines are undergrounded?	Focuses only on neighborhood power lines or "laterals," which are closest to customer; does not include undergrounding of main or "feeder" lines typically seen along major roads	Typically includes main or "feeder" lines as well as neighborhood power lines or "laterals"
What about other utility lines?	FPL does not underground other utilities' lines (such as phone, cable) but notifies them of its plans should they wish to coordinate	Projects usually include coordination with other utilities (such as phone, cable)
What happens to poles?	While FPL removes its overhead lines and equipment when undergrounding is complete, poles remain if other utilities (such as phone, cable) do not underground their lines	Poles removed when all lines are placed underground
Who pays for it?	Paid for by all customers systemwide after costs are reviewed and approved by Florida Public Service Commission	Costs paid by municipalities or communities that convert to underground; discounts available per FPL tariff; most costs recovered by municipalities or communities through special assessment on their taxpayers/community members
What's the future status?	Currently a pilot through end of 2022; additional Florida Public Service Commission approval required to continue program afterward	No additional Florida Public Service Commission action required
Where can I learn more?	FPL.com/ssup	FPL.com/underground